



**City of Scottsdale
Human Services Commission
Regular Meeting**

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

Thursday, October 11, 2012

**Scottsdale City Hall KIVA
3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

PRESENT: Steven Rosenberg, Chair
Raoul Zubia, Vice Chair
Nicholas Thomas, Commissioner
Enid Seiden, Commissioner
Dustin Thomas, Commissioner

ABSENT: Marty Day, Commissioner
Donald Nordlund, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Jan Cameron, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Human Services
Valerie Kime Trujillo, Human Services Manager; Paiute
Kathy Breen, Human Services Manager; Vista del Camino
Michelle Albanese, Community Assistance Manager
Cindy Ensign, Human Services Planner and Budget Specialist
Sharon Light-Stephenson, Housing Coordinator
Zach Matz, Human Services Representative
Tim Miluk, Human Services Manager
Phil Hershkowitz, Recreation Coordinator
Stacey Benson, Human Services Specialist - FSS

1. Call to Order

Chair Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commission members present as noted above.

3. Approval of the Minutes - September 27, 2012

COMMISSIONER NICHOLAS THOMAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2012 HUMAN SERVICES MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUSTIN THOMAS, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS DAY AND NORDLUND WERE ABSENT.

4. Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Sharon Light-Stephenson, Housing Coordinator, gave an overview of Scottsdale's Family Self-Sufficiency Program. She reviewed the program goals, explained how participant escrow accounts are built and disbursed, and talked about the monthly Success Club, the FSS Annual Conference, and the Self Esteem/Employment Workshops.

Haneen Qasem, program participant, discussed her experiences with the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.

5. Target Population Presentation: Victims of Domestic Violence

Cindy Ensign, Human Services Planner & Budget Specialist, mediated a panel discussion posing six questions to panel members. Panel members included:

Sarah Youngblood: Managing Attorney, Community Legal Services

Dana Martinez: Program Manager, A New Leaf, Inc.

Patricia Klahr: President and CEO, Chrysalis Shelter

Marcia Reck: Program Director-Foster Care Program, Child Crisis

Angela Rose: Victim Services Manager, City of Scottsdale

- **From your perspective, describe the target population, "Domestic Violence" in Scottsdale?**

Panel members indicated that the target population includes men and women seeking safety and information on available options for escaping abuse or a place where they do not feel safe, domestic violence victims in need of legal assistance, children in need of foster care because they were removed from the home due to domestic violence, those in need of temporary shelter and/or transitional housing due to domestic violence.

- **What are the most critical needs of the target population "Domestic Violence"?**

Panel members indicated that the most critical needs of the target population include a source for acquiring information on available services and resources; access to adequate medical care and medical insurance; counseling services for victims, abusers, and children; stable funding for child protective services; more foster care homes; legal services; and emergency shelter and long-term transitional housing.

- **What services are available to meet those needs?**

Panel members indicated that services currently available to the target population include shelters throughout Maricopa County; programs that provide temporary shelter and advocacy; a program that provides transitional housing and affordable housing assistance; court advocates; counseling services; anger management classes; and offender treatment programs. They said that although many services are currently available, there are not enough resources to adequately serve the need.

- **Are there any unmet needs of the target population "Domestic Violence"?**

Panel members indicated that unmet needs of the target population include childcare and employment assistance; housing assistance and affordable housing for those who have exceeded the shelter's 120-day limit; foster homes; lawyers willing to serve a low-income population; counselors willing to serve a low-income population; behavioral health counseling; and transportation assistance.

- **Are there any current trends/issues in the target population "Domestic Violence" that we should be aware of?**

Panel members indicated that current trends/issues in the target population include collaboration of community based organizations; impacts of the State budget cuts are being realized; increased availability of help for those with mental health and substance abuse issues; an escalation in violence due to stresses brought on by the current economic condition; increase in cyberstalking; increased number of children placed in foster care due to physical abuse; improved victim advocacy programs; more severe domestic violence injuries; and an increase in women working to stabilize their lives in order to regain custody of their children.

- **Is there any last piece of information that you would like to share about "Domestic Violence" that has not been covered?**

Panel members indicated that in addition to the items discussed, it is important to place a focus on reversing the domestic violence trend by teaching children about healthy relationships, including educating teens about getting out of violent dating relationships; and that offenders need to be held more accountable for their actions. It was noted that Community Legal Services is active during every Legislative session working to strengthen domestic violence and custody laws.

Commissioners were given the opportunity to ask questions. Discussion continued regarding effects of the economy; Scottsdale's domestic violence trends compared to neighboring communities; housing; the police crisis unit; Family Court and the abuser accountability program; behavioral health and medical health needs and availability of assistance; the potential for using ASU interns for counseling services, which would be similar to the intern program for law students; the increase in the number of males reporting abuse; and the availability of legal representation for people going through family court.

6. Staff and Commission Update

Jan Cameron, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Human Services, invited Commissioners to attend the Bond Task Force meeting being held on October 17th at the Grayhawk Golf Club Fairway House. The Task Force will be entertaining presentations from the general public and one presentation of interest will be a proposal by Scottsdale Healthcare for a large community based clinic.

7. Open call to the Public

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

8. Adjournment

Being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.